

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 37-42, 44-49, and 51-74 are allowed. These claims have been renumbered as claims 1-36.
2. Claims 1-36, 43, and 50 have been cancelled.

Drawings

3. The drawings filed on March 31, 2004 are accepted by the Examiner.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

4. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in an interview with Fahd Patel on October 6, 2008.

5. Claim 54 has been amended as follows:

54. (Currently Amended) A computer program stored on a computer-readable storage medium containing instructions, that, when executed on at least one processor, cause the at least one processor to perform a method, the method comprising:
selecting an initial data object to be updated;

identifying a first process chain of the initial data object, wherein the first process chain comprises a series of linked data objects, including the initial data object, and wherein the linked data objects each describe developments of a common business transaction at different points in time;

determining related data objects that are dependent upon changes to the initial data object, wherein the related data objects comprise linked data objects from the first process chain that are later in time than the initial data object;

updating the related data objects and the initial data object, wherein the data objects comprise a time index, and wherein the updating updates the related data objects in reverse chronological order, starting with a related data object with a most recent time index and ending with the initial data object;

storing the related data objects and the initial data object in a database accessible by the at least one processor.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

6. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

The prior art of record does not render obvious to one ordinarily skilled in the art at the time of applicant's invention nor anticipate the combination of claimed elements including "locking real-time access of the related data objects; updating the initial data object; and updating the related data objects while locked from real-time access" as

recited in independent claim 38 and similarly recited in independent claim 40, 45, 47, 52, and 54.

As per claim 39, the prior art of record does not render obvious to one ordinarily skilled in the art at the time of applicant's invention nor anticipate the combination of claimed elements including "cancelling at least one of the related data objects; and updating the initial data object" and similarly recited in independent claims 46 and 53

The remaining claims are dependent claims, thus these claims are patently distinct over the art of record for at least the above reasons.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

NAME OF CONTACT

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Cheryl Lewis whose telephone number is (571) 272-4113. The examiner can normally be reached on 6:30-3:00. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Cottingham can be reached on (571) 272-7079. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

(571) 273-4113 (Use this FAX #, only after approval by Examiner, for "INFORMAL" or "DRAFT" communication. Examiners may request that a formal paper/amendment be faxed directly to them on occasions.).

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist/ Technology Center (571) 272-2100.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/Cheryl Lewis/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2167
October 14, 2008